(ग) क्या इस रेलगाड़ी की गति को बढ़ाने के लिए कोई प्रयास किए गए हैं; यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है और इन्हें कब तक क्रियान्वित कर दिए जाने की संभावना है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी॰के॰ जाफ़र शरीफ़): (क) 6017/6018 कन्याकुमारी-जम्मू तवी हिम सागर एक्सप्रैस द्वारा तय की जाने वाली दूरी 3751 कि॰मी॰ है और एक दिशा में 74 घंटे 5 मिनट और दूसरी दिशा में 74 घंटे 15 मिनट का समय लेती है।

(ख) 6017/6018 हिम सागर एक्सप्रैस सुपरफास्ट गाड़ी नहीं है। इस गाड़ी की औसत गति 50.5 कि॰मी॰ प्रति घंटा है।

(ग) पथ, टर्मिनल और अन्य परिचालनिक कारणों से हिम सागर एक्सप्रैस की गति को बढ़ाना फिलहाल व्यावहारिक नहीं है

Lack of basic facilities in Railway Officers' Rest House, Dibrugarh

7210. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the present Railway Officers' Rest House at Dibrugarh has been lying in completely dilapidated state and lacking in basic facilities like drinking water, geysers, catering etc. for the last several years, resulting in Railway Officers visiting Dibrugarh avoiding it and staying in retiring rooms;

(b) whether the said rest house is mainly occupied by junior railway officers/staff on regular posting to Dibrugarh, doing self-cooking with kerosene stoves inside the rooms, which is gravely hazardous from safety angles;

(c) whether concerned Inspector of Works/ Assistant Engineer Incharge of the said rest house has been totally indifferent towards its maintenance and in ensuring the availability of its chowkidar/caretaker, who remain mostly absent;

(d) if the answer to parts (b) and (c) above in the affirmative, what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard; and

(e) whether Government propose to renovate/remodel the said rest house and provide necessary amentities therein; if so, by when and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir. Geysers are not provided but other facilities like drinking water etc. are available.

(b) No, Sir. However, some newly posted officers do stay in the rest house for short durations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) As the rest house is in satisfactory conditions and has been provided with suitable facilities, there is no plan for renovation of Officers' Rest House at present.

Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee of N.F. Railway

7211. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) of N.F. Railway was reconstituted on the 1st October, 1994, with retrospective effect although nominations to it were processed much later, in December/January last;

(b) whether formation of the said ZRUCC is not complete, as several nominations to it are yet to be received by N.F. Railway; if so, the details of such cases;

(c) whether no meeting of the said ZRUCC has been held so far, although more than 7 months of its 2 years' tenure have alreay lapsed whereas it is mandatory to hold 3 meetings every year, and thus the said ZRUCC has remained non functional so far; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above in the affirmative, whether Government propose to revise its tenure to be effective from a current date, to give it a practical shape and ensure holding of mandatory 3 meetings by it every year; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees/N.F. Railway has been constituted w.e.f. 1.10.1994. The proposal sent by General Manager/N.F. Railway suggesting nomination of persons in various categories was approved and communicated to N.F. Railway on 3.10.94.